

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, October 3, 2019 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC
Holly Free, RN, MSN
Blair Train, Consumer Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Irene Cordell, RN
Tina Fletcher, LPN

STAFF PRESENT

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Tara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Blalock moved, Train seconded and the Committee voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Monday, January 6, 2020, Thompson declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE CASES

(**LPNI** = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (**RNI**=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Train moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

RNI190034 – Close case with Letter of Concern (AAJ)

RNI191202 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, five hundred hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse as documented on the verification of employment form provided by the Board and documentation of completion of one of the five competency requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-9 within two (2) years preceding the date of application for reinstatement, graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) or completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-.03, deny the renewal.

LPNI190479 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191213 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, five hundred hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse as documented on the verification of employment

form provided by the Board and documentation of completion of one of the five competency requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-9 within two (2) years preceding the date of application for reinstatement, graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) or completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-.03, deny the renewal.

RNI200701 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for CE violation.

RNI191251 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, five hundred hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse as documented on the verification of employment form provided by the Board and documentation of completion of one of the five competency requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-9 within two (2) years preceding the date of application for reinstatement, graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) or completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-.03, deny the renewal.

RNI200703 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for CE violation.

RNI191406 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191506 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191362 – Close case with Letter of Concern (UPC).

LPNI190445 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care.

RNI200555 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200014 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), Substance Abuse Stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twelve months (Hairstat 5), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, may not practice more than forty hours per week, must submit documentation of completion of outpatient treatment program within thirty days of docket date of order, must complete courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and must wean off Vyvanse within thirty days of docket date of order.

RNI200512 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, five hundred hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse as documented on the verification of employment form provided by the Board and documentation of completion of one of the five competency requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-9 within two (2) years preceding the date of application for reinstatement, graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) or completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-.03, deny the renewal.

RNI181442 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), Substance Abuse Stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twelve months (Hairstat 5), quarterly urine drug screenings with EtG and EtS throughout the order, standard work restrictions, must complete courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, and Georgia Nurse Practice Act, must pay fine of \$500 for diversion and investigative costs of \$132.79.

RNI200511 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy, medication management), Substance Abuse Stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twelve months (Hairstat 12), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, must complete courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, must pay investigative costs of \$132.33.

RNI200239 – Applicant may submit IOP treatment records and safe to practice statement. If not received prior to May 20, 2020, deny application for licensure.

LPNI190274 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI170425 – Close case with Letter of Modification to include new date of sobriety.

RNI200644 – Close case with Letter of Modification to include new date of sobriety.

LPNI170488 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with one quarter of documented compliance with terms of consent order, payment of fine and documentation of completion of courses.

RNI200744 – License by endorsement with LOC (Criminal).

LPNI190477 – Close case with Letter of Concern (UPC).

RNI200209 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190929 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care.

LPNI190492 – Close case with Letter of Concern (UPC).

RNI200501 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), Substance Abuse Stipulations, monthly PEth for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI180057/RNI190046 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), Substance Abuse Stipulations, quarterly hair follicle tests for twelve months (Hairstat 10), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, must complete courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, must pay a fine of \$1000 for unprofessional conduct and investigative costs of \$707.84.

RNI191179 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of petition, five hundred hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse as documented on the verification of employment form provided by the Board and documentation of completion of one of the five competency requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-9 within two (2) years preceding the date of application for reinstatement, graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) or completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-.03, deny the renewal.

RNI191157 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI200118 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$1000 for unprofessional conduct, must complete courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, must pay a fine of investigative costs of \$412.22.

LPNI190478 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Ethics of Nursing Practice, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 4:27 p.m.


James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**